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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2163	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 10/06)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/776,440	GORMAN, JOHN G.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Helene Rose	2163	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>08 January 2007</u>.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>41-86 and 88-90</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) <u>1-40 and 87</u> is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>41-86 and 88-90</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>10 February 2004</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

1. In response to communication entered on 12/26/2006, Claims 41-86 and 88-90 are presently pending. Claims 55, 82, and 88-90 were amended. Claim 87 was cancelled. No claims were added.

2. Applicants arguments with respect to claims 41-90 have been considered, but are not persuasive.

Claim Rejections

3.   In view of the claims 41,46,52,55,58,61,68,71,76,81 and 82 is rejected under 112, second paragraph. **Examiner withdraws the pending rejection based on applicant remarks.**

Double Patenting

4.   In view of double patent rejection relating to claims 1,44,46,52,55,58,61,64,67,71,78-81 and 87 being rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1, 4, 37 and 38 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,738,770.
        Examiner withdraws the pending rejection based on applicant filing and submitting a terminal disclaimer under 37 C.F.R. §§ 3.73(b) AND 1.321(b).

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C - 102

5.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6.   Claims 41-86 and 88-90 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

Sumita et al (US Patent No. 5,907,836/Date of Patent: May 25, 1999).

Claims 41, 46, and 81:

        Claims 41, 46, and 81, Sumita discloses a method/computer readable medium/system of

managing data, the method comprising:

        displaying a table comprising a plurality of rows and columns of data cells, wherein a

number of the rows or columns of cells of the table have an associated filter cell and an

associated sort procedure, and wherein the content of each of the data cells belongs to at least

one data set (Figure 9, all features, Figure 13, wherein sort is illustrated, also see abstract,

Sumita);

        receiving filter criteria via one or more of the filter cells; providing a sorting priority list

that defines a sorting order for the sort procedures, wherein the sorting priority list is generated

based at least in part upon the order in which a user enters filter criteria in the filter cells (Figure

10 & 15, all features, Sumita);

identifying which of the data cells satisfy the filter criteria that is associated with the respective data cells (column 1, lines 52-60 & Column 4, lines 31-40, Sumita);

sorting the data sets of the identified data cells, wherein the sorting is based at least in part upon one of the sort procedures and the sorting priority list (column 1, lines 31-40, Sumita); and

displaying the sorted data sets of data cells, wherein the identified cells are displayed contiguously and interposed between non-identified data cells, wherein the data cells are identified, sorted, and displayed in response to receiving character-by-character input or upon the lapse of a preset pause period, and wherein the data sets associated with the identified data cells are graphically displayed to a user via highlight, color or other image marking that is different from the highlight, color, or image marking that is used for the non-identified data cells (column 6, lines 29-56, Sumita).

Claim 42, 45 and 70:

Claim 42, 45 and 70, Sumita teaches wherein the filter criteria is predefined in a computer memory (see abstract, Sumita).

Claims 43 and 69:

Claims 43 and 69, Sumita teaches wherein automatically inserting filter criteria in at least of the filter cells in response to a selection of the filter criteria by a user further comprises:

determining whether the selection of the filter criteria by the user triggers automatic insertion of filter criteria in the filter cells (Figure 20, wherein add information and Figure 24, diagram S63, Sumita).

Claim 44,67 and 78-80:

Claim 44,67 and 78-80 Sumita teaches wherein a method/computer readable

medium/system of managing data, the method comprising:

displaying, in a window of a display, one or more filters cells and a table including one

or more rows and columns of data cells, wherein each data cell includes content that belongs to

at least one data set, and wherein each of the data cells is associated with at least one of the filter

cells (REFER to claim 41, see above, wherein this limitation has already been addressed,

Sumita);

automatically inserting predefined filter criteria in selected filter cells in response to a

user selection (REFER to claim 43, wherein this limitation is substantially the same as claim 43,

which has already been addressed, Sumita);

identifying data cells that have content that corresponds with the predefined filter criteria

of an associated filter cell (REFER to claim 41, wherein this limitation is substantially the same

as claim 41, which has already been addressed, Sumita); and

sorting the data sets associated with the identified data cells (Figure 42, diagrams S127,

wherein the article retrieving portion 24 sorts the supplied articles in the descending order in

terms of the similarity with the user profile to rank the articles, Sumita).

Claims 47, 53, 56, 59,62, 65:

Claims 47, 53, 56, 59,62 and 65, Sumita teaches receiving the filter criteria in response to

a selection of a user; and

automatically inserting the filter criteria in one or more of the filter cells according to the

selection of the user (REFER to claim 43, wherein this limitation is substantially the same in

defined in claim 43, which has already been addressed, Sumita).

Claim 48, 54, 57, 63 and 66:

Claim 48, 54, 57, 63 and 66, Sumita teaches wherein the filter criteria is stored in a

computer memory (Figures 1 and 3, all features and column 15, lines 3-10, Sumita)

Claim 49:

Claim 49, Sumita teaches wherein un-displaying the non-identified data cells is based at

least in part on a user input (Figure 23, wherein the popup window is illustrated, in which data

can be display or not display, Sumita).

Claim 50:

Regarding Claim 50, Sumita teaches wherein un-displaying the non-identified data cells

based at least in part on user input (Figure 25, diagram S74, wherein open window to display

body of relevant article only, which is interpreted to be equivalent to "un-displaying the non-

identified data cells, in which only the relevant content is shown, Sumita)

Claim 51:

Claim 51, Sumita teaches wherein displaying the sorted data sets further includes

displaying the sorted data sets below the top of the table at a position at approximately one-third

of the height of the table (Figure 84, all features, wherein an output, in which articles surrounded

by straight lines are duplicated articles and Mark .quadrature. indicates a set of only duplicated

articles supplied this day, while mark A indicates a set of duplicated articles including a previous

article. Expression "8/4" is the date of the article and If the output can be performed in the form

of a hyper text, only the representative article may be displayed in the top portion of the

hierarchy and other duplicated articles may be made to be relative to the representative article,

Sumita).

Claims 52 and 58:

Claims 52 and 58, Sumita teaches a method of managing data, the method comprising:

displaying, in a window of a display, a plurality of filter cells and a table including a plurality of

rows and columns of data cells, wherein each data cell includes content that belongs to at least

one data set, wherein each of the data cells is associated with at least one of the filter cells,

wherein each of the data cell is associated with at least one of the filter cells, wherein each of the

columns or rows is associated with a sort procedure (REFER to claims 41 and 44, wherein these

limitation is substantially the same as claim in 41 and 44, which has already been addressed,

Sumita);

receiving filter criteria via one or more of the filter cells(REFER to claim 44, wherein this

limitation is substantially the same as claim 44, which has already been addressed, Sumita);

identifying data cells that have content that corresponds with the predefined filter criteria

of an associated filter cell (REFER to claim 44, wherein this limitation is substantially the same

as claim 44, which has already been addressed, Sumita);

sorting the data sets of the identified data cells, wherein the sorting is based at least in

part upon one of the sort procedures (Figure 45, all features, Sumita); and

displaying at least the identified data cells, wherein the data cells are graphically

displayed via highlight, color or other image marking, and wherein the highlight color, or image

marking is automatically applied to at least part of the identified data cells that satisfies the filter

criteria (Figure 50, all features, wherein he emphasis-expression is display to be usually

performed such that a portion of a text is emphasized as compared with other portions by using

an additional symbol, such as an underline, a different font, a character having different size or

different color Sumita).

Claim 55:

Claim 55, discloses the same limitations in which they are substantially the same as claim

limitations define within claim 41, in which they have already been addressed, Sumita).

Claim 60:

Claim 60, Sumita teaches wherein storing the user-defined filter criteria in a computer

memory (Figure 69, all features, Sumita).

Claim 61 and 64:

Claim 61 and 64, Sumita teaches a method of managing data, the method comprising:

displaying, in a window of a display, a plurality of filter cells and a table including a

plurality of rows and columns of data cells, wherein each data cell includes content that belongs

to at least one data set, wherein each of the data cells is associated with at least one of the filter

cells, wherein each of the data cell is associated with at least one of the filter cells, wherein each

of the columns or rows is associated with a sort procedure (REFER to claims 41 and 44, wherein

these limitations are substantially the same as defined above, Sumita);

receiving filter criteria via one or more of the filter cells (REFER to claims 41 and 44,

wherein these limitations are substantially the same as defined above, Sumita);

identifying data cells that have content that corresponds with the predefined filter criteria

of an associated filter cell (REFER to claims 41 and 44, wherein these limitations are

substantially the same as defined above, Sumita);

computing a sorting priority list, wherein the priority list is based at least in part on the

filter criteria (Figure 42, all features, wherein hen, the article retrieving portion 24 updates the

value of the variable j by increasing it by one, and then determines whether the value of j is

larger than the number of supplied articles, within steps S125 and S126) and if the value of j is

not larger than the number of the supplied articles, the article retrieving portion 24 determines

that articles, the similarities of which have

not been calculated, remain, and, thus, repeats steps S124 to S126 until the value of j is made to

be larger than the number of the supplied articles and when all of the supplied articles have been

subjected to the calculations for obtaining the similarity with the topic i, the article retrieving

portion 24 sorts the supplied articles in the descending order in terms of the similarity with the

user profile to rank the articles, i.e. step S127, a result of the ranking operation is stored in the

article information storage portion 27, Sumita); and

sorting the data sets associated with the identified data cells based at least in part upon the

sorting priority list (REFER to claims 41 and 44, wherein these limitations are substantially the

same as defined above, Sumita);.

Claim 68:

Claim 68, Sumita teaches wherein the content of each of the data cells is selectable by a

user, to become the filter criteria for the row or column associated with the selected content

(Figure 69, all features, wherein selected by a certain user and their degrees of priority, the

degree of the priority may be determined by the information filtering center 1 or specified by the

user and assuming that the degree of the priority is specified by the user, it can be said that the

user is interested in articles satisfying the topic A as compared with the articles satisfying the

topic B, Sumita).

Claim 71:

Claim 71, wherein the claim language is substantially the same as claim 55, Sumita.

Claim 72:

Claim 72, Sumita teaches wherein the filter criteria for at least one of the filter cells is

selected from a list of predetermined values (see abstract, Sumita).

Claim 73:

Claim 73, Sumita teaches wherein one or more of the predetermined values are selectable

by a user selection, and wherein data cells that satisfy at least one of the predetermined values

are identified in response to the user selection (REFER to claim 52, wherein this limitation is

substantially the same, Sumita).

Claims 74:

Claims 74, Sumita teaches wherein in response to a user selection of filter criteria for at

least one of the filter cells, the selected filter criteria are assigned to one or more filter cells

(Figure 127, diagram T225, Sumita).

Claims 75:

Claims 75, Sumita teaches wherein sorting and identifying occur in response to the

user selection of the filter criteria for at least one of the filter cells (see abstract, Sumita).

Claims 76:

Claims 76, Sumita teaches wherein displaying a set of pre-stored criteria for filtering two

or more of the rows or columns (see abstract and REFER to claim 44, wherein this limitation is

substantially the same as above, Sumita).

Claim 77:

Claim 77, Sumita wherein the set of pre-stored filter criteria is selectable by a user

selection, and wherein sorting and identifying occur in response to the user selection (REFER to

claim 41, wherein this limitation has already been addressed and substantially the same, Sumita).

Claim 82:

Claim 82, Sumtia teaches wherein displaying the identified data cells, wherein the

identified data cells are graphically displayed via highlight, color, or other image marking, and

wherein the highlight, color, or image marking is automatically applied to **at least parts of** the

identified data cells or parts of the data cells that satisfy the filter criteria (REFER to claim 41,

wherein this limitation is substantially the same, Sumita).

Claim 83:

Claim 83, Sumita teaches wherein saving entries in one or more of the filter cells into a

list of pre-stored filtered queries (see abstract, wherein storing is defined, Sumita).

Claim 84:

Claim 84, Sumita teaches wherein automatically filling one or more filter cells from the

list of pre-stored filtered queries (REFER to claim 43, wherein this limitation is substantially the

same, Sumita).

Claim 85:

Claim 85, Sumita teaches wherein content that belongs to a data set includes one or more links to related information outside the data set (Figure 1, all features, Sumita).

Claim 86:

Claim 86, Sumita teaches wherein the one or more links includes at least one internet address related to the data set (Figure 1, diagrams 2, wherein information sources are interpreted to be web addresses and in which a network is illustrated, Sumita).

Claim 88:

Claim 88, Sumita teaches wherein the identified data cells are automatically positioned vertically and/or horizontally within the data table, so that the identified data cells are displayed in the window at a level and position that maximizes viewing by the user (Figure 32, all features, Sumita).

Claim 89:

Claim 89, Sumita teaches wherein removing row data sets from the identified data cells based on input from the user (Figure 115, all features, wherein the process for deleting a text data base from a user information storage portion, Sumita).

Claim 90:

Claim 90, Sumita teaches wherein identifying data sets in a row based on first input from a user; marking the identified data sets based on a second input from the user; and adding the marked data sets to call that have already been identified (Figure 83, all features, wherein f a duplicated article exists, whether the set of the duplicated articles consist of only articles supplied this day is examined, i.e. step S224, and if the duplicated articles consist of articles

supplied this day, mark 2 is output. If the duplicated articles includes a previous article, mark 1

and the set of the duplicated articles are output, i.e. steps S225, S226 and S227, Sumita).

Examiner Response to Applicant's Arguments

(9)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach or suggest, "the table further comprising one or more

filter cells configured to receive filter criteria".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. Referring to Figure 75 and Figure 76, wherein it illustrates a table, in

which a table is interpreted and considered to be "rows and columns", and wherein Figure 76

illustrates as well as defined in column 42, lines 11 and 27, a conceptual view showing

information articles to be presented to a user, wherein the length of the summary or the abstract

may be changed to correspond to information of the time when the article has been supplied to

the information filtering center and information whether the newspaper is morning issue or the

evening edition, which is interpreted to be equivalent to "one or more filter cells", wherein a day

of the week may be employed as the attribute in terms of the time to perform process such that

articles on Monday are displayed in detail as compared with those on other days, which is

interpreted to be equivalent to "configured to receive filter criteria".

(10)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach or suggest, "displaying the sorted data sets, such that the

identified data cells are displayed contiguously and interposed between non-identified data

cells".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. Referring to column 20, lines 24-42, wherein duplicated articles

which have been omitted is added to the information about the body of the article, wherein the

information about the body of article is presented to the user and information about articles

determined to have the same contents as the article and supplied from the other information

source is supplied as added to the information, wherein the captions, the information source, the number of words of the article and the similarity of the article with the article, the body of which is being presented to the user are listed up, and wherein although the articles each having OX corporation has pulled out from the service business have been obtained from the three sources, OO, Δ Δ and □□ newspaper publishing companies, the article supplied from the OO newspaper publishing company is selected so as to be present to the user, and wherein by adding information about the omitted duplication articles to information about the body of the article and by presenting the information item, is interpreted to be equivalent to "identified data cells are displayed contiguously and interposed between non-identified data cells", wherein the non-identified cells" is interpreted to be the "omitted information".

(11)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach or suggest, "wherein the data sets associated with the identified data cells are graphically displayed to a user via highlight, color or other image marking that is different from the highlight, color, or image marking of the non-identified data cells".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. Referring to column 14, lines 63-67, wherein the information filtering system is an information supply system that receives text articles containing text and images supplied from a plurality if information sources such as newspaper publishing companies, news agencies and publishers, and so forth, which is interpreted to be equivalent to "data sets", wherein data set is interpreted to be a group of related data; and column 31, lines 42-46, wherein the emphasis expression is display to be usually performed such that a portion of text is emphasized, which is equivalent to "the identified data cells", as compared with other portions by using an additional symbol, such as an underline, a different font, a character having different size or different color, which is interpreted to be equivalent to "wherein the identified data cells are graphically displayed to a user via highlight, color or other image marking is automatically applied to at least a part of the identified data cells that satisfies the filter criteria".

(12)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach, displaying, in a window of a display, one or more filter cells".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. Referring Figure 25, all features, which corresponds to the shift of screen in Figure 21 to the state shown in Figure 23, and further defined in column 21, lines 34-39, wherein the presentation information generating portion fetches information about the body of the selected relevant article from the article information storage position to display the body of the selected relevant article on the window, which is interpreted to be equivalent to "displaying, in a window of a display, one or more filter cells".

(13)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach, "automatically inserting predefined criteria in selected filter cells in response to a user selection".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. Referring to Figure 75, wherein it illustrates as well as defined in column 42, lines 1-5 to be an article selected by the article selection portion as to be presented to a certain user, wherein information of date, such as date of the publication is employed as the attribute to be previously added to the article, wherein the term "added" is equivalent to "inserting", and therefore interpreted to be equivalent to "automatically inserting predefined criteria in selected filter cells in response to a user selection".

(14)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach, "wherein each of the columns or rows is associated with a sort procedure".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. Referring to column 17, lines 41-50, wherein when the retrieval process in which all the supplied articles are retrieved has been completed, the article retrieval portion sorts the supplied articles in descending order in terms of the similarity with the user profile to rank the articles, which is interpreted to be equivalent to "a sort procedure", and wherein the result of the ranking operation is stored in the article information storage position, which is illustrated in Figure 9, and wherein Figure 9 illustrates rows and columns associated with a descending order sort procedure, which is interpreted to be equivalent to "wherein each of the columns or rows is associated with a sort procedure".

(15)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach, "identifying data cells that have content that corresponds with the predefined filter criteria of an associated filter cell".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. Referring to Figures 28A and 28B, wherein the figures are further defined in column 23, lines 1-29, in which a set of articles are selected by the article selection portion, wherein articles A, B, C, and D have been presented to a user at the previous operations, while articles E, F, G, and H are presented at this time, wherein a modification may be employed in which only articles satisfying a predetermined condition, wherein "predetermined condition' is interpreted to be "predefined filter", are made to be the subjects of the calculations for obtaining similarities, which is interpreted to be equivalent to "identifying data cells that have content", and wherein calculations for obtaining the similarity of article E supplied from the newspaper publishing company M, is interpreted to be the "criteria of an filter cell", this time are required to be performed with respect to only articles A and B supplied from the newspaper publishing

company M, and therefore interpreted to equivalent to "identifying data cells that have content that corresponds with the predefined filter criteria of an associated filter cell".

(16)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach, "wherein each of the data cells is associated with at least one of the filter cells, wherein each of the columns or rows associated with a sort procedure".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. Referring to ", "wherein each of the data cells is associated with at least one of the filter cells", See Examiner Response as it relates to applicants arguments – No. 16, wherein this limitation is substantially the same/or similar.

Referring to "wherein each of the columns or rows associated with a sort procedure", refer to No. 14 of applicant argument, wherein this limitation has already been addressed by the Examiner.

(17)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach or suggest, "wherein the identified data cells are graphically displayed to a user via highlight, color or other image marking is automatically applied to at least a part of the identified data cells that satisfies the filter criteria".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. Referring to column 14, lines 63-67, wherein the information filtering system is an information supply system that receives text articles containing text and images supplied from a plurality if information sources such as newspaper publishing companies, news agencies and publishers, and so forth; and column 31, lines 42-46, wherein the emphasis expression is display to be usually performed such that a portion of text is emphasized, which is equivalent to "the identified data cells", as compared with other portions by using an additional symbol, such as an underline, a different font, a character having different size or different color, which is interpreted to be equivalent to "wherein the identified data cells are graphically displayed to a user via highlight, color or other image marking is automatically applied to at least a part of the identified data cells that satisfies the filter criteria".

(18)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach or suggest, "displaying the sorted data in response,
wherein the response is a character by character input or lapse of a present pause period during
which no input character is received".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. Referring to column 24, lines 48-53, wherein relevant article is
permitted enables a user to easily recognize the process of an event, the state of which is changed
as a lapse of time and to easily obtain information about a plurality of articles, such as serialized
article; and columns 54-55, lines 56-67 and lines 1-3, wherein the user information storage
portion permits the user to input whether the user considers that the adaptation ratio is important
or the user considers that the reduction ratio is important through the input unit and the foregoing
inputs are used as the retrieving conditions by the retrieving condition specifying portion,
wherein the former process is the same as the process for enlarging the threshold of the similarity
in which only articles directly relating to the user profile or the topics specified by the user are
retrieved and although the probability that articles which are not required by the user appear in
the result of the retrieval can be lowered, leakage of articles of a type required by the user can be
taken place, wherein the latter process is the same of the process for setting the threshold of the
similarity to be a small value and although articles of a type which is not required by the user
takes place more frequently, leakage of the articles required by the user can be decreased, which
is interpreted to be equivalent to "lapse of a present pause period during which no input character
is received".

19)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach or suggest, "displaying, in a single window of a display,
a plurality of filter cells".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. . See Examiner Response as it relates to applicant's arguments –
No. 12, wherein this limitation is substantially the same/or similar.

(20)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach or suggest, "receiving user-defined filter criteria via one or more of the filter cells within the window".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. Referring to column 4, lines 41-55, wherein an information filtering apparatus having means for receiving articles from one or more information source, for calculating similarities among retrieving conditions previously specified by a user, supplied articles, which is interpreted to be "receiving user-defined filter criteria", and output for storing articles in a descending order of the calculating similarities to output articles by a predetermined number or only articles having similarities greater than a predetermined threshold in the descending order in terms of the similarity, which is interpreted to be equivalent to "receiving user-defined filter criteria via one or more of the filter cells within the window"; Also, See Examiner Response as it relates to applicant's arguments – No. 12, wherein this limitation is substantially the same/or similar.

(21)   Applicant Argues:

Applicant argues prior art fails to teach or suggest, "computing a sorting priority list".

Examiner Response:

Examiner is not persuaded. . See Examiner Response as it relates to applicant's arguments – No. 14, wherein this limitation is substantially the same/or similar.; and column 39, lines 14-20, wherein the supplied articles are sorted in the descending order in terms of the similarities with the topic, wherein "descending order" is interpreted to be the sorting priority list".

Prior Art of Record

1. **Sumita et al** (US Patent No. 5,907,836) discloses an information filtering apparatus for receiving articles, such as texts or images, from information sources to select predetermined

articles from the supplied articles to a user has a storage portion, an article retrieving portion, a

determining portion and a presentation portion.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing
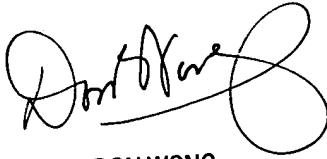
date of this final action.

Point of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Helene Rose whose telephone number is (571) 272-0749. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am - 4:30pm Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

HRR
Technology Center 2100
March 8, 2007

DON WONG
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